

August 15, 2008

Homeowners Association Presidents
Burr Ridge, IL 60527

Dear Resident,

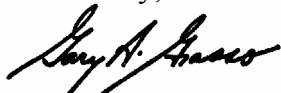
As you may be aware, Emerald Ash Borer infestation has been identified in Burr Ridge. On Wednesday July 30, 2008, the Village of Burr Ridge received confirmation from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), of the presence the beetle on the 6400 Block of St. James Court in the Heatherfields subdivision. The attached Press Release was issued on July 30th, and the infested trees were removed on Friday, August 8, 2008.

Emerald Ash borer beetles are ½" long metallic green beetles which lay eggs in the bark of Ash trees. After hatching, the larvae bore into the trunk of the tree, which disrupts the ability of the tree to convey nutrients, and ultimately results in the death of the tree. EAB infestations have already resulted in the death of over 20 million Ash trees in the United States since being first identified in Michigan in 2002. It is not believed that eradication of the beetle is possible.

Ash trees represent nearly 25% of the existing population of public trees, and are believed to represent a notable percentage of privately owned trees as well. While eradication of the pest may not be possible, preliminary research indicates that preventative insecticidal treatments may reduce the probability for future infestations. Currently the Illinois Department of Agriculture has approved the use of Tree-AgeTM insecticidal injections, which must be applied by an arborist. There is also research available which indicates that Bayer AdvancedTM Tree and Shrub Insect Control root drench systemic treatment (which can be applied by a homeowner), may be an effective means of treating a non-infested tree. An informational bulletin entitled "Homeowner Treatment Guide for Emerald Ash Borer" is attached for your consideration, and additional information can be found on the Village of Burr Ridge website, www.burr-ridge.gov.

The Village of Burr Ridge is proud to have received the distinction as "Tree City, USA" for many consecutive years. We recognize that the public and private trees which grace our community are a valuable asset to the Village as a whole, as well as each resident individually. We wish to take this opportunity to notify Homeowners Associations so that you may share this information with your neighbors, and so that you may begin to initiate preventative treatment, should you so desire. Forestry Division staff would be pleased to offer further assistance to determine the projected impact in your subdivision. Please contact the Village of Burr Ridge Forestry Division at (630) 323-4733.

Sincerely,



Gary A. Grasso
Mayor



PRESS RELEASE

Emerald Ash Borer Confirmed in Burr Ridge

On Wednesday July 30, 2008, the Village of Burr Ridge received confirmation from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), of the presence of Emerald Ash Borer in Burr Ridge.

On Friday July 25, 2008 while doing a routine visual inspection of parkway trees, Village Arborist Gary Gatlin noticed a group of ash trees that were exhibiting signs of an Emerald Ash Borer infestation. The USDA was immediately notified and specimens of the adult EAB beetles were sent in for positive identification. The adult beetle specimens were collected from parkway trees on the 6400 Block of St. James Court in the Heatherfields subdivision. The Heatherfields subdivision is located on the northeast side of Burr Ridge, near Plainfield and I-294.

The State of Illinois has the authority to require removal of all EAB infested trees but has never done so. At this time, State officials are allowing local municipalities to determine how to best respond to local infestations. There are currently no mandated policies on the removal of EAB infested trees. Burr Ridge will remove the infested ash parkway trees as soon as we can determine the extent of the beetle's presence. Village officials and staff are currently preparing a formal plan that will address the needs of the community in the wake of this very destructive pest.

Emerald Ash Borer is a small, metallic green beetle that is native to China. EAB is believed to have first arrived in suburban Detroit in wooden shipping material. The presence of EAB was discovered in Detroit in 2002. EAB has since killed millions of Ash trees in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and Illinois.

In the beginning stages, EAB can be difficult to detect. Since the beetles first laying eggs in the crown of the ash, infestation is often not noticed until it moves downward to the trunk, which can take several years. The most noticeable signs of EAB include dead or dying branches within the top of the tree crown, followed by sprouts growing from the trunk. If you suspect your ash is infested, contact the Village of Burr Ridge Forestry and Grounds Division at (630) 323-4733 x 455.

For more information on Emerald Ash Borer visit: www.illinoiseab.com,
www.agr.state.il.us/eab, or www.emeraldashborer.info.

Homeowner Guide to Emerald Ash Borer Treatments

Dave Cappaert, MSU

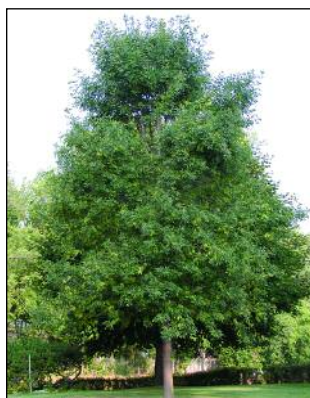


Emerald ash borer adult

Several insecticide products are available to homeowners for control of emerald ash borer (EAB). Treatments are needed every year to protect trees from EAB. Treatments are recommended only for homeowners in the quarantined area; it is not necessary to treat ash trees outside of this area. Treatments may be more effective if overall tree health is maintained. Therefore, it is important to fertilize trees in the fall or spring and water regularly.

Treatment Considerations

Because of the expense of yearly treatments, it is important to weigh the decision to treat carefully. Consider the value of the tree in relation to treatment costs. Also consider the health of the tree. Research suggests that insecticide treatments may be able to save infested trees exhibiting low to moderate dieback (20 to 40 percent), but the outcome is less certain than with healthy trees showing little or no sign of infestation.



Healthy ash tree: no dieback.

Treatment Options

The insecticide product available for home use is Bayer Advanced Garden™ Tree and Shrub Insect Control. For additional treatment options, contact a local professional arborist. Caution: read all label instructions before using any pesticide, avoid skin contact, and store pesticides where children cannot reach them.

Eric Rebeck, MSU



Ash tree exhibiting 40 percent dieback.

Active ingredient	Product	Timing	Type of application and instructions
Imidacloprid	Bayer Advanced Garden™ Tree and Shrub Insect Control	May to early June	Soil drench Mix with water and drench around base of tree



**Emerald
Ash Borer**

Homeowner Guide to Emerald Ash Borer Treatments



Application of soil drench around tree base.

Product Descriptions

Bayer Advanced Garden™ Tree and Shrub Insect Control is a systemic insecticide applied as a soil drench around the base of a tree. There are several Bayer Advanced Garden™ products — be sure to purchase the one with “Tree and Shrub” in large print on the label and imidacloprid as the active ingredient. Label instructions say to use 1 ounce of the insecticide for every inch of distance around the tree trunk (circumference). Applications should be made in May or early June. This product is available at most local hardware and garden stores. More information about the product is available at www.bayeradvanced.com.

Treatment Recommendations

- Research results indicate that the soil drench provides excellent protection for small ash trees (less than 6 inches in diameter at breast height) in the first year following treatment, but larger trees may require two years of treatment before they are protected. Therefore, it is important to begin treating large trees before they become infested. Treatment must continue each year.

- At sites where infested ash trees have been treated with a soil drench for 3 years, about half of the trees survived and look very healthy; the other half have died. These trees were heavily infested when the test began. Better results are possible if treatments begin a year or two earlier.
- Note: Homeowners may also contact tree care professionals to treat their trees. Professionals have access to **some products that are not available to homeowners**. Michigan State University does not **endorse the** insecticide products discussed in the bulletin over other options. **These products are discussed because they have been evaluated in MSU research tests on emerald ash borer.**

Authors: Kimberly A. Rebek and David R. Smitley
Michigan State University

For more information, visit:
www.emeraldashborer.info.